

BADGER STATE

SMOKE SIGNALS

SERVING AMATEUR RADIO IN WISCONSIN

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NOTED CONTESTER PHIL GOETZ, N6ZZ, (ex-K9ELT) SK

World-class Amateur Radio contesteer Phil Goetz, N6ZZ, of Alto, New Mexico, died unexpectedly February 27. He was 64. Goetz reportedly suffered a cerebral hemorrhage while playing racquetball. Past ARRL Southwestern Division Director Art Goddard, W6XD, called Goetz, who competed on phone and CW, HF and VHF/UHF, "a consummate contesteer."

"The contest community has lost one of its most outstanding practitioners and Amateur Radio has lost a fine gentleman," he said this week.

Goddard said, "Phil always kept his composure on the air, even when dealing with unruly pileups after 40+ hours of nonstop contest operation. He was most thoughtful of other members of his contest team and was ready to apply his quick wit and sense of humor to any situation."

ARRL Southwestern Division Director Dick Norton, N6AA -- himself an active contesteer and DXer -- said he and Goetz were best friends and had operated contests together since 1965. Norton said he'd miss Goetz's assistance with CQ World Wide DX Contest log checking and as a good friend.

ARRL member, Goetz had the distinction of being one of only two radio amateurs to operate the CQ World Wide DX Contest from all 40 CQ zones. ARRL CEO David Sumner, K1ZZ, said Goetz

operated Zone 5 -- saving the easiest zone for last -- from his station in 2004.

"He did a great job, placing in the US top 10 from an unfamiliar station, and he taught me a thing or two about SO2R [single operator/two radio] and staying in the chair," Sumner recounted.

Goetz was a key member of the judging committee at the World Radiosport Team Championship (WRTC 2006) in Brazil last July. He was a member of the Sierra Blanca Amateur Radio Club and the A-1 Operator Club. Wednesday, February 28, 2007 13:51

—ARRL BULLETIN

BSSS also received the following from another ex-Badger:

Long time no talk, but I think of the Wisconsin gang often.

If you haven't heard yet, I wanted to pass on that our good friend Phil Goetz, N6ZZ died Feb. 27 from a brain aneurysm. You will remember that Phil was K9ELT in Madison until he finished school at W9YT and then moved west to Los Angeles in the Sixties. He has been living in New Mexico the past few years.

73, Glenn K6NA (ex-K9ZMS Sun Prairie, 1960-69)

ARRL HONORARY VICE PRESIDENT, PAST DIRECTOR ED METZGER, W9PRN, SK

ARRL Honorary Vice President and Past Central Division Director Edmond A. "Ed" Metzger, W9PRN, of Springfield, Illinois, died February 26. He was 93. An ARRL Charter Life Member, Metzger spent more than half his life serving the League in a variety of capacities.

Licensed in 1941, Metzger began his lengthy League service in 1957, when he became Illinois Section Communications Manager (SCM -- now Section Manager), a post he held until 1980. From 1965 until 1981, he also served as ARRL Central Division Vice Director. He became Central Division Director in 1981. That same year, the ARRL Board of Directors elected Metzger as an ARRL Foundation Director, and he subsequently served as the Foundation's president from 1993 until 2001, when Dick Isely, W9GIG, succeeded him as Director. The ARRL Board of Directors named Metzger an ARRL Honorary Vice

President in 2001.

Metzger was a member of the Sangamon Valley Radio Club and the Quarter Century Wireless Association. He regularly attended the annual W9DXCC gathering in Chicago. A graduate of Springfield Junior College, Metzger, was controller for Kerasotes Theatres for more than 50 years.

Survivors include two sons -- Ed, NL7LJ, and William, and three daughters - Margaret, Molly and Lisa. A service was held March 1.

The family invites memorial contributions to the Edmond A. Metzger Scholarship, c/o The ARRL Foundation, ARRL, 225 Main St, Newington, CT 06111.

—ARRL BULLETIN

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Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsss.org>



WHAT’S HAPPENING

Swapfests and Other Social Events — Club Meetings Amateur Radio Exam Schedules

Edited by Kenneth A. Ebnetter, K9EN, 822 Wauona Trail, Portage WI 53901 — kenneth.ebnetter@verizon.net

Swapfests And Other Social Events

March 30-31, 2007. AES SuperFest 2007. Amateur Electronic Supply (AES) 5710 West Goodhope Road Milwaukee, WI 53223. Friday March 30 (2:30-7:00 p.m.) and Saturday March 31 (8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m.) Phone: 414-375-1162. <http://www.aesham.com> Contact: Ray Grenier, K9KHW. Phone: 414-375-1162. Email: ray@aesham.com

April 21, 2007, Madison Area Repeater Association Swapfest, Stoughton, WI. Mandt Community Center, 400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, WI. Inquiries can be directed to: w9hsy@execpc.com or write to MARA, PO Box 8890, Madison, WI 53708-8890, Tele:608.245.8890 For more information see the MARA website www.qsl.net/mara.

April 21, 2007. Copper Country Radio Amateur Association, Swap-N-Shop Chassell VFW Building (U.S. 41-In Chassell) Doors open to the public at 9 am – Close: 12:00 pm, Raffle, 50/50 type. No sales before 9AM. Setup by vendors/sellers: (Access at 8am). Admission? \$3.00 per person. Door prizes. Food: Breakfast type, French Toast, etc. by VFW. Talk-in? 146.880 MHz (-) with PL of 100.0 Hz. Tables: \$5.00 full table, \$3.00 half table.

Reserve tables: Call Glenn Ekdahl at. (906) 482-7743 -or- E-Mail: wa8qnf@arrl.net.

May 5, 2007. Ozaukee Radio Club 28th annual Swapfest. Circle B Recreation Center, State Highway and Ozaukee County Highway I. Contact: Gene Szudrowitz, KB9VJP, @ (262) 337-6793 www.ozaukeeradioclub.org

June 2-3, 2007. Hamfest, Computer & Hobby Show, Bureau County Fairgrounds, US Route 6 West, Peru Street, Princeton, IL. Starved Rock Radio Club, Talk-In: 146.955 (-600kHz) repeater (PL 103.5). Contact: Tom Chromzack, KC9EGB, PO Box 101, Tiskilwa, IL 61368, Phone: 815-646-4488, Fax: 815-646-4362, Email: w9mkshamfest@yahoo.com. <http://www.qsl.net/w9mks/hamfest.htm>

June 10, 2007. 50th Annual Hamfest. DuPage County Fairgrounds, 2015 Manchester Road, Wheaton, IL Six Meter Club of Chicago. Talk-In: 146.370/146.970 (PL 107.2). Contact: Joseph Gutwein, WA9RIJ, 6675 South Cass Avenue, Westmont, IL 60559-3290, Phone: 708-442-4961 (24-hr infoline). Email: wa9rij@arrl.net <http://www.qsl.net/k9ona>

July 7, 2007, South Milwaukee ARC Swapfest, American Legion Post 434, 9327 South Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. e-mail ryatex@aol.com. Phone (414) 762-3235.

July 14, 2007. WeLCARS Technology Fest, Fox Lake Illinois, Come one, come all to the WeLCARS

Hamfest! This is a centrally located Hamfest, with easy access to parking and public transportation! This should be a very successful Hamfest, focused entirely on technology! Presentations by ARRL, HandiHam, and various technical presentations will supplement the Hamfest. FREE ADMISSION! Table and tailgate space available for reservation, first come first served. Tables are \$15, table space is \$10, and tailgate spaces are \$5. Please see <http://welcars.no-ip.org> and select HAM-FEST 2007 for more information.

This is a technology only festival; please do not consider participating if your wares are not technology related!

Email joeserocki@gmail.com <<mailto:joeserocki%40gmail.com>> if you have any questions.

July 15, 2007 Aurora Central Catholic High School. 1255 Edgelawn Avenue, Aurora, IL Fox River Radio League, Talk-In: 147.210 MHz (PL 103.5 Hz). Contact: Dean Holste, KC9EOQ, 805 Laurel Drive Aurora, IL 60506, Phone: 630-966-8521 Fax: 630-879-0000. Email: hamfest@frri.org <http://www.frri.org>

August 11, 2007 Circus City Swapfest, Sauk County Fairgrounds, Baraboo, WI. Contact: [Steve Schulze](#), N9UDO at:(608) 356-2313 or [Bill Klinkner](#), N9KXX at: (608) 643-6908 Daytime, (608) 643-6453 Evenings, (608) 643-8850 Fax. <http://www.yellowthunder.org/swapfest.html>

August 11, 2007 Annual Swapfest, Eagle's

Alps_3737 North 5th Street, Quincy, IL Western Illinois ARC, <http://www.w9awe.org/> Talk-In: 147.030 +600 (PL 103.5 Hz). Contact: James Funk, N9JF, 2742 North 230th Avenue, Liberty, IL 62347, Phone: 217-336-4191. Email: n9jf@arrl.net

September 8, 2007. ORC Outdoor Swapfest. Circle B Recreation Center, State Highway and Ozaukee County Highway I. Contact: Gene Szudrowitz, KB9VJP, @ (262) 337-6793. Admission is \$5.00 at the gate. No tables to rent. Sell from the back of your vehicle. For current information go to: www.ozaukeeradioclub.org

September 14-15, 2007. W9DXCC CONVENTION, Holiday Inn, 1000 Busse Road, Elk Grove Village, IL. Northern Illinois DX Association. Talk-In: 147.36. Contact: Bill Smith, W9VA, 1345 Linden Avenue, Deerfield, IL 60015, Phone: 847-945-1564, Fax: 847-945-6554. Email: w9va@aol.com <http://www.w9dxcc.com>

September 15-16, 2007. Peoria Superfest 2007, Exposition Gardens, 1601 West Northmoor Road, Peoria, IL. Peoria Area ARC, Talk-In: 147.075+ (PL 103.5). Contact: John Coker, N9FAM, 133 Vonachen Court, East Peoria, IL 61611-1578, Phone: 309-369-7428. Email: n9fam@insightbb.com <http://www.peoriasuperfest.com>

September 29-30, 2007 The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2007 Boone County Fairgrounds, Rts. 76 and Business 20 Belvidere, Illinois Free parking; Amateur Exams, Windy City Pro Wrestling-Sun 12-2. Talkin 146.16/76 (107.2), 147.255+ (114.8), 444.725+ (114.8). Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 <http://www.chicagofmclub.org> 5127 N. Monterey Dr, Norridge IL 60706-3245

January 5, 2008, Waukesha, WI. 34th Annual Midwinter Swapfest, sponsored by the West Allis RAC. Waukesha County Expo Center Forum, Waukesha, WI. For information contact: www.warac.org, WARAC Swapfest, PO Box 1072, Milwaukee, WI 53201, or Phil, W9NAW, (414) 425-3649 GPS coordinates: Latitude 43.03227, Longitude -88.23948

Further information about hamfests in the area can be found at bsss.org or at <http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html> If your organization is sponsoring a Hamfest/Swapfest and would like us to list your event, please send the information to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN at the address on page 2 or to k9en@arrl.net

Check us out on the web
at <http://www.bsss.org>

Badger State Smoke Signals

Amateur Radio Education and Information

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EDITORIAL BOARD: Ken Ebnetter, K9EN; Don Evenson, K9JYX.

Subscription Rate

1 year (6 issues—bi-monthly) \$13.95

A subscription form is in this issue. Special club package reduced rates are available. For information, contact Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

When to Send It

The closing date for each issue is the first of the month before the issue date. For example, the closing date for the May issue is April 1. The only exception is for participating clubs' minutes. Participating clubs are requested to send their material no later than FIVE DAYS after the club's meeting. For example, if a club meets on the 4th of the month, the material should be sent no later than the 9th of that month. This material is to be sent to the Editor.

Where to Send It

Address changes and corrections, and exchange papers should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Editorial material, photographs, and feature articles should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN.

Web page material should be sent to kb9csw@arrl.net Dave Spearing, KB9CSW

Inquiries about advertising should be directed to Ken Ebnetter.

Club, swapfest, and Test Point information should be sent to Ken Ebnetter.

Swapfest ADS should be sent to Ken Ebnetter, K9EN no later than eight weeks before the

events date.

Subscriptions should be sent, with check or money order, to Ken Ebnetter.

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Permission is hereby granted to reprint articles or posting articles on radio or telephone bulletin boards from *Badger State Smoke Signals*, providing credit is given to the original author, publication in which the article first appeared, and to *Badger State Smoke Signals*.

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Editorial Disclaimer

The opinions expressed in editorials, guest editorials, columns, articles, and letters from readers are the opinions of the authors only, and do not, unless otherwise stated, express or imply endorsement by *Badger State Smoke Signals*, or by any other individual or organization.



Appleton
FOX CITIES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:00PM., Goodwill Community Center, 1800 S. Appleton Road, Menasha, WI. Information: Brian Long KB9LRD fcarc@w9zl.org Web-site: <http://www.fcarc.us>

Baraboo
BADGERLAND AMATEUR TELEVISION SOCIETY (BATS) Check BATS Web page: <http://www.shopstop.net/BATS/>

Baraboo
YELLOW THUNDER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: See the YTARC column elsewhere in this issue for meeting times and locations. For further information: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc>.

Dubuque, IA
GREAT RIVER AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Monday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Red Cross Center, 2400 Asbury Road. The club serves the tri-state area. On the Web: <http://www.qsl.net/wb0lob/>. Information or questions to: N0hdc@aol.com.

Eau Claire
EAU CLAIRE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: 2nd Tuesday - 7 p.m., Eau Claire Parks & Recreation, 1300 First Ave., Eau Claire, WI 54703. All hams and guests welcome. W9EAU repeater 146.91 MHz, tone 110.9 Hz. Information: Jim Staatz, KG9RA, President, P.O. Box 1867, Eau Claire, WI 54702-1867. Phone (715) 838-9108, Email kg9ra@ecarc.org. Web page: <http://www.ecarc.org>

Fond du Lac
FOND DU LAC AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Monday at Moraine Park Technical College, Fond du Lac, WI. Time: 7 p.m. Sunday net: 7:30 p.m. CDT, K9IA repeater, 145.430 - PL 107.2 Information: Jack Heil, KG9IN, 920.922.1413. Email: kg9in@fdlhams.org Web: <http://www.fdlhams.org>.

Fort Atkinson
TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB second Thursday monthly except June to August, 7 p.m., at Dwight Foster Public Library in Fort Atkinson. ARES Net each Wednesday evening at 8 and club net Monday evenings at 8 on 145.49 repeater. Contact: Paul Marowsky, KD9PM, 920-674-4968., or John Satterlee, WA9SAB, 920.563.6381.

Grafton
Ozaukee Radio Club (ORC) Second Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. Grafton Multipurpose Senior Center, 1665 7th. Ave., Grafton, Wisconsin www.qsl.net/orc/.

Green Bay
GREEN BAY MIKE AND KEY CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Media Services area of J. M. Science Building at St. Norbert College in De-Pere. Information: Kevin at kb9sne@yahoo.com.

Green Lake
GREEN FOX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Greater Green Lake County area. Meetings: Third Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Green Lake Town Hall, intersection of County Highways K and N.

Houghton, MI area:
The CCRAA is the "Copper Country Radio Amateur Association" and they hold meetings the first Tuesday of each month at the Dollar Bay Fire Hall. Summer

meetings (June, July, August, and September) are held at the CCRAA Clubhouse in Osceola (2 mi. S. of Calumet, MI)

Hudson
St. CROIX VALLEY RADIO AMATEURS. Meetings: Third Monday of every month. Time: 7:00 pm Business meeting followed by a program., St. Croix County Emergency Government Center, Carmichael Road, Hudson. Short business meeting at 7:30 p.m. followed by program. Talkin: 145.13 MHz. All are welcome!

Juneau
ROCK RIVER RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Dodge County Administration Building, 127 East Oak Street, Juneau, WI. ARES Nets: 146.64 (-600) Mondays, 7:30 p.m., Saturdays, 7278 KHZ, Alternate in 3.947 at 10:00 AM. & Wednesday, 1908 KHZ 8:00 PM, Wintertime.

La Crosse
Riverland Amateur Radio Club Meeting: First Tuesday, American Red Cross, 2927 Losey Blvd. S. La Crosse, WI Meeting at 7:00p.m. More information: <http://www.qsl.net/wr9arc> E-mail w9arc@qsl.net

Madison
SPACE PLACE AMATEUR RADIO CENTER No meetings. Located on U.W.-Madison campus. Guest operators are welcome to operate the U.W. Space Place Amateur Radio Station, N9UW. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, President, (608) 263-4685. Email: n9uw@sal.wisc.edu.

Madison
BADGER AMATEUR RADIO SOCIETY University of Wisconsin - Madison/W9YT Meetings: Third Mondays at 7:00 p.m. in UW Union South. Room number posted on the Today in The Union board. Information: Don Michalski, W9IXG, (608) 263-4685. Email: w9ixg@arrl.org. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/w9yt>.

Madison
Madison DX Club, meetings are on every fourth Tuesday of each month; see <http://madisondxclub> for more details.

Madison
FOUR LAKES AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m., Red Cross Building, 4860 Sheboygan Avenue, Room C, downstairs. First building west of Hill Farms State Office Building.

Manitowoc
MANITOWOC COUNTY RADIO AMATEURS (ManCoRad) Second Wednesday of each month. Club board meets at 6:30 p.m., and Regular meeting is at 7:30 p.m., at 1105 Fleetwood Drive, 2nd floor (Old County Shop building on northwest side of city.) For Additional information please see our club web-site www.w9dk.com or contact Fred Neuenfeldt, W6BSF, (920) 682-9312. Email: fre-dandpat@lakefield.net

Marinette WI
Menominee MI
Amateur Radio Club Meetings held second Thursday 7:00PM each month BAMC Tenth Avenue Menominee Michigan in the basement. Guests welcome e-mail secretary kg9ad@arrl.net

Medford
Black River Amateur Radio Association Meetings: Normally the first Thursday of each month. Usual meeting time is 7 PM. Most meetings are held at the Taylor County Courthouse. Directions: Those attending should park in the main courthouse parking lot on the east side of the building, and enter using the main courthouse entrance or the sheriff's dept. entrance. Proceed to the lower level of the courthouse using the stairs or elevator. We meet in the "break room" on the lower level, near the Emergency Government office.

Talk-in on the 147.15 repeater (114.8 Hz PL, +600 kHz offset) and 146.52 MHz simplex. Contact: Mike Schoenfuss, N9GHZ, P.O. Box 401, Abbotsford, WI 54405. Phone: (715) 223-3996.

Menomonee Falls
FALLS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, INC. Meetings: Last Wednesdays at Bank One building in Germantown. Doors open 7 p.m. Meeting time: 7:30 p.m. Guests are welcome!

Menomonie WI
Saturday coffee at Burger King, 544 Main Street, at 9 a.m. Social hour on 4th Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the Depot, 2616 Hills Court, north of Wal-Mart on highway 25 North, in January, March, April, and September through November. Guests welcome!

Milwaukee
GREATER MILWAUKEE DX ASSOCIATION Meetings: Fourth Monday of month, 7:30 p.m. Contact any GMDXA member, or Gary Schwartz, K9GS, (262) 363-4439. Email: garyk9gs@arrl.net.

Milwaukee
MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS CLUB Meetings: Last Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. Redemption Lutheran Church, 4057 North Mayfair Road, Wauwatosa, WI. Mailing address: P.O. Box 070695, Milwaukee, WI 53207. Web: <http://www.qsl.net/mrac> . Email: w9rh@arrl.net.

Northeast Area
NORTHEAST WISCONSIN DX ASSOCIATION Meetings quarterly: April 28, Marinette; August 25, Fox Valley; November 10, Green Bay. For specific information about meetings, check <http://home.new.rr.com/newdxa/>. Contact us at w9dxa@arrl.net.

Oak Creek
SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Wednesdays, Legion Post #434, Shepard Ave., Oak Creek, WI. In March and October the meetings are turned into Auction Nights.. The club WEB site is www.qsl.net/wa9txe

Onalaska (see La Crosse)

QCWA Chapter 162
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter 162. Meetings: Third Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and November, 7:30 p.m., usually at Meadows Restaurant, Franksville, WI. Social events: Third Sundays in February, April, June, August, and October. Christmas party: Usually second or third Sunday in December.

QCWA Chapter 55
QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION (QCWA) Wisconsin Chapter 55 meets the first Saturday of June and October. For information about Chapter 55, contact Ron Yokes, W9BCK, Secretary, 612 N. Pt Washington Road, Grafton, WI 53024-9703. (262) 375-1774. mailto:rryokes@execpc.com.

Racine
LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION Meetings: Last Tuesday, January, April, July, October. American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Racine
RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB Meetings: Second Mondays, 7:30 p.m., American Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, WI.

Sheboygan
SHEBOYGAN COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Tuesdays. 7 p.m., Sheboygan County Red Cross/Boy Scout Building, 2032 Erie Avenue.

Shell Lake
Northland ARC meetings are held the first Saturday of each month after breakfast. Location: Schmitz's Economart Deli. Located on US Hwy.63 on the south end of Spooner. The meeting will start at approx. 8:00 AM. Breakfast usually starts by 7:30 AM. Come and see what we're about. Anyone, even if you're licensed or not and has an interest in ham radio is welcome to attend! Next Meeting: Sept 4th, 2004 at 8:00 AM. So Please plan to attend!!!! <http://home.centurytel.net/NorthlandARC/>.

Stevens Point
CWRA Ltd./UWSP ARC Meetings second Wednesday. of each month at 7:30 pm. Science Building on the UW-Stevens Point Campus, Room A107, Stevens Point, WI. Email: jglas776@uwsp.edu. Webpage: www.qsl.net/wb9qfw.

Superior
ARROWHEAD AMATEUR RADIO CLUB. Meetings on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Secondary Technical Center. The address is: 802 East Central Entrance - Duluth, MN 55811. The board meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm.

W.A.R. WISCONSIN ASSOCIATION OF REPEATERS
Quarterly meetings of the Wisconsin Association of Repeaters are held at various locations around the State in March, July and November. Check the WAR web page for meeting announcements and repeater coordination info. Information: <http://www.wirepeaters.org>.

Watertown
WATERTOWN AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: First Thursdays of month, 7 p.m., Room S-114 of the Watertown High School, 825 Endeavour Drive, Watertown, WI 53098 at 7:00 PM on the first Thursday each month.

Waupaca
WAUPACA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB CQ First Tue. Social gathering and Dutch treat luncheon, King's Table, King, WI, on Highway QQ, just south of Highways 10 and 54, west side of Waupaca. Gather at 11 to 11:30. Order at noon. Club business transacted. CQ Third Fri. Social gathering and Dutch treat dinner. Semi-formal, OM and XYL, at one of the better supper clubs in the area. Check: Waupaca 147.39 nets at 8 a.m. or 8:50 p.m. for month's meeting location.

Wausau
WISCONSIN VALLEY RADIO ASSOCIATION Meetings: 7:00 pm the first Tuesday of the month except for July. The meeting location is the Marshfield Clinic, Wausau Center. Talk in is on 147.135 + PL 114.8. Website is www.wvraclub.org.

West Allis
West Allis Radio Amateur Club Second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. St. Peter's Episcopal Church, 80th and Lincoln Ave., West Allis. Meetings in basement. Entrance at rear, off alley. Handicapped accessible. www.warac.org.

West Bend
WASHINGTON COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Second Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., Washington County Courthouse. Net: Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., 146.73 (-600).

Wisconsin Rapids
WISCONSIN RAPIDS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Meetings: Third Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Room 14 of Wood County Courthouse. Talkin: 146.79 (-600) for entry into the building.

Wisconsin Nets Association Ltd.

Dean R. Herriges, KB9ROB, Secretary
W370 S9590 Highway 67 • Eagle, WI 53119

WISCONSIN NETS

Net	WNA	Freq.	UTC	CDT	Manager
BWN	YES	3985	1100	0600	W9IXG
BEN	YES	3985	1700	1200	KE9VU
WSBN	YES	3985	2215	1715	K9FHI
WNN	YES	3555	2300	1800	KB9ROB
WSSN	YES	3555	2330	1830	N9JIY
WIN/E	YES	3555	0000	1900	WB9ICH
WIN/L	YES	3555	0300	2200	W9UW
RCRA	NO	01/61	2230	1930	KA9OMC
(Mondays CDT— Menomonie Area)					
Green Bay Area	NO	72/12	0245	2145	WB9NRK
ARES	NO	4.65/5.25	0200	2100	
(South East/South Central Wisconsin)					
ARES/RACES (WRACES)	NO	3997.5	2300	1800	N9VAO
(Sundays)					

Wisconsin Section STM Report

STM Report Wisconsin Section January 2007

FAQ #64 – Where did all the section CW nets go? 3555 KHz. Same good times (6, 6:30, 7, and 10) same great operators.

FAQ #65 – Is it too late for a New Year’s resolution? Nah. This is as good a time as any. In fact, I resolved to make these ten suggestions for your resolutions.

NYR –1 I will check in to some traffic nets. For many good ops, this resolution is already completed.

NYR –2 I will send and receive some formal traffic. We all need practice, so I will prepare and send a message – even if it’s only a greeting to test the system.

NYR –3 I will listen more. I’ll spend some time listening to traffic nets – both phone and CW just to review the protocol. I’ll listen to some of the good traffic handlers to pick up some hints on how to do it well.

NYR –4 I will review the Prosigns and Prowords for traffic handling. (See the famous pink card – FSD-218.)

NYR –5 I will volunteer to serve as a net control station – on a local net, a section net, an ARES net, or for a special event.

NYR –6 I will offer to be the liaison station to another net – perhaps to WIN, to the BWN, to 9RN, or to the BEN.

NYR –7 I will tell a new Ham about traffic han-

dling – how much fun it can be, how it prepares us to serve the public, how easy it is.

NYR –8 I will expand my operation. If I usually only check the BEN, I’ll make an effort to check in on the BWN, WNN, or WSSN.

NYR –9 I will check my knowledge of the protocol for severe weather traffic. That’s especially important traffic.

NYR –10 I’ll review my resolutions periodically to check my progress, and I will be proud of my accomplishments.

--73 K9LGU/STM-WI

February 2007

FAQ #66 – Why use the NTS format for messages? It’s what we do. The ARRL formal message form was developed and refined over the years because it works. Formal traffic is documentation. It contains specific information that can be very helpful in tracing, replying, authenticating, and assuring delivery. Remember the parts? The preamble has these:

NUMBER – PRECEDENCE – HANDLING
INSTRUCTIONS – STATION OF ORIGIN – CHECK – PLACE OF ORIGIN – TIME – DATE

Then comes the ADDRESSEE, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER and a break. The TEXT is clear and counted (That count is the check.) and is followed by another break. The SIGNATURE isn’t counted, but it concludes the message. There are more details in the traffic handling section of the Wisconsin page of the ARRL website, <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/w9ixg/Msg1.htm> and <http://www.wi-aresraces.org/w9ixg/Msg2.htm>.

www.wi-aresraces.org/w9ixg/Msg2.htm.

Shortcuts such as “Here’s my message number 1 from me to you today. . .” might save a little time, but they don’t help us practice the right format.

It’s good practice to send *all* formal messages in proper form – even net reports, end-of-month summaries, etc. Using the form keeps us familiar with it. When

we need to handle messages with more important content – emergencies, welfare inquiries, etc. – we will have the pattern firmly in mind.

The famous pink card (FSD-218) has all the information you need for a proper format of a message. Need one? Just ask me. Please.

– 73 – K9LGU/ STM-WI

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

WISCONSIN SECTION MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY January 2007

NET	NI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	011	2923	5189	31	W9IXG
BEN	43	45	1211	31	KE9VU
WSBN	57	46	1199	31	K9FHI
WNN	49	15	381	31	KB9ROB
WSSN	97	25	316	29	N9JIY
WIN/E	60	31	272	30	WB9ICH
WIN/L	61	35	300	31	W9UW
WRACES	73	0	205	4	N9VAO
TOTALS	4351	3120	9073	218	

MONTHLY NET ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2007

NET	QNI	QTC	QTR	SSNS	NM
BWN	1856	2519	4679	28	W9IXG
BEN	551	33	1058	28	KE9VU
WSBN	736	58	1086	28	K9FHI
WNN	187	15	286	22	KB9ROB
WSSN	202	17	271	28	N9JIY
WIN/E	164	28	259	28	WB9ICH
WIN/L	140	18	253	28	W9UW
WRACES	70	7	182	4	N9VAO
TOTALS	3906	2695	8074	194	

STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY January 2007

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KA9EKG	48	642	578	24	1292 - BPL
KB9KEG	0	256	37	256	549 - BPL
K9LGU	0	52	43	1	96
AG9G	0	6	55	0	61
W9BHL	0	15	46	0	61
K9FHI	0	21	24	0	45
K9JPS	0	0	31	0	31
KB9ROB	0	25	4	2	31
W9UW	0	26	3	0	29
KN9P	0	14	13	1	28
KE9VU	0	26	2	0	28
K9GU	0	0	22	0	22
AA9BB	0	0	22	0	22
W9RSX	0	1	10	1	12
WD9FLJ	6	0	6	0	12
K9UTQ	0	0	4	0	4
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

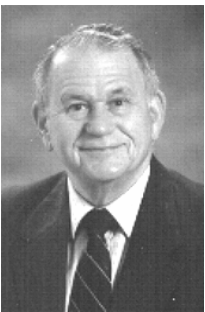
STATION ACTIVITY SUMMARY February 2007

(Continued on page 7)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsسس.org>

The Computer Corner

by Stan Kaplan, WB9RQR
715 N. Dries Street
Saukville, WI 53080-1664
(262) 268-1949
skaplan@mcw.edu



No. 135. Physical Maintenance

When is the last time you did preventive maintenance? As much as a year ago? Never? How about spending a little time to give your computer a break. Clean it up to make sure it continues giving you good service. You can do it even if you are a beginner. You will need a vacuum cleaner with a hose (a Shop Vac is perfect, but your household vacuum will do the job, too), a soft-bristle brush (a basting brush from the kitchen will do nicely, and you can replace it later), and a can of compressed air.

Unplug all the cables and move the box down to your workbench. If it is a mini-tower, pop the cover on the left side of the machine (your left as you face the front side of the machine). Lay the machine on the covered side (the right side as you face the machine). Make sure your lighting is good, and examine the inside of the case. You will see a myriad of cables. Move them gently to the side as you examine each component. Identify the motherboard, the memory stick(s), the power cables that plug into the motherboard, the little twisted cables that fit on motherboard header pins for the speaker, power switch, power LED, hard drive LED, and so on. The connectors at the end of twisted cables usually have a printed label on the black plastic of the connector, and the motherboard usually has a (hard to see!) label by each set of pins that the connectors attach to. Right now! Make a sketch of the motherboard and, especially, those connectors and pins. If you inadvertently disconnect anything, that sketch will save you from grief. If you are lucky enough to have a manual for the motherboard, examine it for a nicely made map of all these connectors.

Continue to examine. Identify the PCI slots, the AGP (video) slot if you have one. Note what is plugged in where, and write it down or sketch it. You cannot re-

cord too much, though you certainly can write down too little! Document, document, document. Find the floppy connector on the motherboard, and the CD-ROM and hard drive connectors. Follow them up to the device they control. When you have a pretty good idea of what goes where, it is time to clean.

Turn on the vacuum and carefully put it inside the case. Use the paintbrush to dislodge any dust bunnies, and keep the vacuum hose end close to suck up the dirt you free up. Pay particular attention to the interior slots in the power supply case, to the spaces between memory sticks, and to the fan on top of the CPU heat sink. If you have a can of compressed air, blow between the slots of that heat sink to get the dust out. Also give a blast or two of air in the slots of the power supply. Keep the vacuum going all the while, to suck up the dirt. Now, set the machine on its bottom, and use the brush to clean up the inside bottom of the case. Suck it up, suck it up, and suck it up. Turn the case around so you can see the power supply fan blades on the back. Blow them clean from the back. This will likely blow dust into the case through the interior slots in the power supply, so go back inside and vacuum it all again. See if you can use the brush to dislodge dust from the fan blades of the power supply from the outside, keeping the vacuum hose nearby to suck the dirt up. Blow air into the corners of the inside of the case to release dust bunnies you may have missed. Suck everything up. When you are satisfied that the dirt is gone, it is time to renew contacts.

The easiest and safest way to renew the electrical contacts in a computer is to partially disconnect them, then reseal them. This renews the contacts at the molecular level, as the metal contacts slide over each other. Start with the floppy cable. At the motherboard end, slightly raise the floppy connector on the mating pins, then push it

right back down until it is completely seated. Do the same with the CD-ROM connector, then the hard drive connector. Now do the other ends of each cable, where the cable connects to the device. No need to completely remove the connectors. Just partially raise them, then reseal them. This can significantly reduce the resistance of the metal-to-metal contacts (34 of them for a floppy, 40 for a CD-ROM or hard drive). Now do the same for the power cable going to each device (one yellow, one red and two black wires, each). If you wish, you can completely remove these and then plug them back in. You cannot plug them in incorrectly, since they will only go in one way.

Now apply the same procedure for the power supply connector on the motherboard. Use care here – modern systems have a little latch on this connector that you must depress to get it loose. Plug it back in, and make sure the latch is latched (you will likely hear an audible click when it seats properly). Use care not to flex the motherboard much. Motherboards can crack, in which case, they may well be rendered useless.

Now, move on to any PCI or AGP cards. PCI cards typically plug into those whitish slots on your motherboard, while AGP (video) cards plug into a dark-colored slot. Remove the retaining screws from any cards plugged in and remove them (one at a time). Blow any dust out of the slot, then plug the card back in and replace the retaining screw. Use care not to touch any of the gold contacts on the card bottom. Oils in the fingerprints you leave will increase the resistance of the contact with its slot. Follow the same procedure for the memory stick(s). Be sure to keep fingers off those gold contacts!

Now, renew the metal-to-metal contacts at the end of those twisted wires for the speaker, hard drive LED, power on and the like. Raise them just a tiny bit, then reseal them. If your computer could talk, you would hear it say “ooooh, that feels good!”

Now, give a blast or two of air to the top surface of the hard drive, floppy drive and CD-ROM. Dust bunnies like to hang out up there. Next, pay some attention to the front panel. Blast out any dust or dirt there, typically lurking in slots or vents. Sometimes, there is a big vent at the bottom of the front panel. Tip the computer up on its back to get to that one. A blast into the floppy drive door is a good idea, too.

All done? Typically your workbench will be covered with dust and debris, including some bits of paper. Hopefully there will be no paper clips or other such

metallic flotsam and jetsam. Did you find a tiny spring with two ½-inch arms? That’s from the shutter door of a floppy disk. Good thing you got it out!

Save your notes and sketches! Put back the side panel and mount the computer in its proper place. Plug in all the cables, but before you power up, take a moment to clean your keyboard and mouse. Q-tips are great for both. Moisten the Q-tips with Sparkle (my favorite) or Windex to clean the dirt off of keys and in between. If you have a mouse with a ball, remove it and clean the two black shafts and white roller that the ball contacts. Wash the ball with dish soap and water, and dry it with a towel.

Power up! Maintenance is done! Happy computing!

PS: The day after writing this article, one of my machines would not start. A tiny dust bunny had partially gotten between the gold contacts on a memory stick and the slot on the motherboard, effectively shorting things out. I removed the stick, gave the slot a shot of air, replaced the stick, and the problem was solved. Then I did thorough maintenance as described in this article, though it had not been a long time since I had done it last. Yes, I do take my own advice!

PPS: If you get a new computer and don’t have a use for the old one, give it to me. I rebuild and distribute them (all free) to ARES/RACES groups in Wisconsin, for use in emergency communications. I can use 500 MHz or faster machines. Send me an email and I may be able to make arrangements to get it picked up. Not to worry about the data on the hard drive – I completely remove it using a technique that prevents recovery. On top of that, the drive is then repartitioned and reformatted, and a new operating system is added, thus overwriting any data that might be present. I will even take machines from which the hard drive has been removed, or machines that do not work.

PPPS: A tip. How do you end Windows? Click Start, then Shutdown, and then OK? A faster way, and one that works even if you cannot see the screen (as when your monitor just died or your video card just went bonkers): Press the Windows button (the one with the Windows Logo on it), then the letter U (either upper or lowercase – it doesn’t matter), then press the Enter button. Done!

No. 136. Protecting Your Computer

What steps should you take to protect your computer? First, understand that this

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Check us out on the web at
[Http://www.bsسس.org](http://www.bsسس.org)

WISCONSIN SECTION MANAGER REPORT

January 2007

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG, SEC: KB9ENO, STM: K9LGU, SGL: AD9X, OOC: KC9IS, PIC: KB9NUM, TC: K9GDF, BM: WB9NRK, ACC: N9LVS ASM: K9UTQ, W9DGI, N9VE.

With regret, I am informing you of the following Silent Key: -- Viktor Zerkinel, KA9FLQ, 74.

Congratulations to Gregg Seidl, K9KL on being appointed VHF Awards Manager for the Green Bay Mike & Key Club, an ARRL Special Service Club. Gregg will be responsible for validating VUCC applications. Email k9kl@arrl.net

John Townsend, State Representative to the WI Legislature from Fond du Lac, is working on a Bill, to create 341.26 (2) (p) of the statutes; that would change the Motor Vehicle License (registration) plate fee from \$55 or more per year to \$5 for five years for "a motor vehicle that is equipped with mobile emergency communication equipment, that is owned by an amateur radio organization and that is operated by a person who holds an un-expired amateur radio license issued by the Federal Communications Commission." Please write to your state legislators in support of John's effort and ask their reps to co-sponsor the bill, if possible. This needs to be done by mid-February.

MRAC FM Simplex Contest--this Sunday!!! Purpose: To promote FM simplex operation and VHF/UHF contesting while giving new hams an opportunity to develop their contesting skills. Date: Sunday, February 11, 2007 Time: 2PM to 4PM (all bands run simultaneously) designed to promote mobile operation from multiple grid squares. Region: Southeastern Wisconsin (Grids-EN52, EN53, EN62, EN63) Contacts with other grid squares are also welcomed. Bands: 2 meters, 1.25 meters, 70 centimeters, 6 meters Categories: Base, Mobile, HT's, and Club Log Information Required: Call sign of station worked, frequency, time, and grid square. Detailed Contest Information: Detailed contest information and entry forms can be downloaded from the MRAC web site at www.w9rh.org

Wisconsin Amateur Radio Emergency Services (ARES)/Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Services (RACES) received a \$72,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Public Health to improve emergency communications for hospitals throughout Wisconsin. The money will be used to improve communications infrastructure involving amateur radio methods to ensure essential communications for hospitals

in the case of terrorism and other emergencies that may disrupt normal communications.

Wisconsin ARES/RACES surveyed the emergency communications capabilities of Wisconsin hospitals, and worked with interested hospitals to develop amateur radio communications support equipment and programs tailored to meet each hospital's specific needs. Then activation plans were jointly developed and practiced to ensure effective assistance in the event of need. This work put Wisconsin ARES/RACES in position to request this grant funding.

Wisconsin ARES/RACES incorporated WeComm, Ltd. to determine appropriate infrastructure upgrades around the state, and to project manage implementation of those upgrades. WeComm Ltd. elected a board of directors, and has been meeting and investigating communications needs. Non-profit status has been sought. Congratulation to Bill Niemuth, et al, for making the grant possible!

We enjoyed participating at the D.A.R. (Daughters of American Revolution) Boys & Girls club Special Event, K8D, on January 31. This was in celebration of their first year of operation. The youngsters (Hammers) enjoyed working the pileups. Congratulations and appreciation in developing this radio room goes to the M&M ARC for their involvement with these kids. Special recognition go to KG8CX and KS8O for their daily participation with these Hammers.

73, Don, W9IXG

February 2007

WISCONSIN: SM: Don Michalski, W9IXG. BWN 3985 0500-0715 W9IXG. BEN 3985 1200 KE9VU. WSBN 3985 1715-1800 K9FHI. WNN 3555 1800 KB9ROB. WSSN 3555 1830 N9JIY. WIN-E 3555 1900 WB9ICH. WIN-L 3555 2200 W9UW. (All times are Central time)

With regret, I am informing you of the following Silent Keys:
-- Art Vahovius, W9VSO, 89. Art is survived by his wife, Terry, N9VKF.
-- Bob Wilkinson, KB9VEM, 59. He was a member of several Racine area clubs, including Lakeshore Repeater Assn and Racine Amateur Television Society.
-- Cyril Martin, KB9PCV, 75. He was a member of ARES/RACES.
-- Walter Mulloy, Jr., WB9NFW, 73.
-- Ed Metzger, W9PRN, 93. Ed was the former Central Division Director.

The Four Lakes ARC had one of the two annual Technician weekend classes and all 12 students came out with, at least, a Technician license. Two passed the General exam. This was done using the ARRL Ham Radio License Manual and accompanying Instructors Manual and PowerPoint slides. Our thanks to K9REO and W9DGI for a job well done instructing the class! And, our appreciation to all the VEs who supported this class as well as the last-of-the-old/first-of-the-new exam sessions on February 22-23.

Is your club getting a little stale? Need some ideas to perk it up? I recommend reading this article:

<http://www.arrl.org/news/features/2007/03/05/1/?nc=1>

It provides Ten Steps toward a Healthier Radio Club

Duane Haas, W9BCV, received a very nice certificate of appreciation from the Rock River Club for his years of service and dedication to the club. Congratulations, Duane!

As expected, the VE testing sessions are standing room only since the recent changes in FCC licensing requirements. This has caused a lot of stress for the VE teams. We'd like to thank all the VEs (e.g., NQ9A, W9GOC, KB9NUM, W9GPI, etc.) who are running around the state and volunteering to support the VE testing sessions outside their area.

Note: BWN is Badger Weather Net; BEN is Badger Emergency Net; WSBN is Wisconsin Side Band Net; WNN is Wisconsin Novice Net; WSSN is Wisconsin Slow Speed Net; WIN/E is Wisconsin Intrastate Net/Early; WIN/L is Wisconsin Intrastate Net/Late; WRACES is Wisconsin Radio Amateur Civil Emergency

The Computer Corner

(Continued from page 5)

protection means freedom from malware of any kind (malware = malicious software designed to damage your machine or to infiltrate it without your informed consent). Perhaps even more important, what are the steps in order of importance? Here are my suggestions, and I suspect most knowledgeable computer gurus would agree with this order.

1. USE WINDOWS UPDATE (unless you run Linux, or some other non-Windows operating system). There is simply no more effective step you can take to protect yourself than by installing every security update available. You are leaving yourself open to trouble if you do not use Windows Update regularly, even if you take all the rest of the steps mentioned in this article! New updates are released regularly on every second Tuesday of the month, unless an unusual situation prompts Microsoft to release one sooner. The Windows Update site works very well, and actually saves you time. For example, when I

Service net. Details on all these nets are found on this site:

<https://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI> under Wisconsin Traffic Nets.

Note that the weekly topic of discussion for the Sunday ARES/RACES (WRACES) net is now posted every Thursday on the Wisconsin site. Join us!

Skywarn training sessions are in full swing! A complete listing is given on the Wisconsin site.

With all this activity, we have been keeping Richard Regent, K9GDF, busy updating the Wisconsin site. Our sincere appreciation to Rich for the excellent job he does maintaining one of the finest Section sites in the country!

It is great to hear all the new /AGs on the air participating in the Wisconsin Nets! I hope you welcome them and give them a lot of encouragement to join the nets on a regular basis. March is going to be busy with hamfests. This weekend, you will find me at the Eau Clair ARC Amateur Equipment Auction on Saturday. Last year, it was quite an event. We expect it to be another success. Hope to see you there. On Sunday, we travel to the popular Jefferson Hamfest. And, the end of the month we have the AES Superfest to look forward to. This year, Joel Harrison, ARRL President, will be behind the table with us! Details on these and upcoming hamfests can be found on the Wisconsin site: <https://www.arrl.org/sections/?sect=WI>

73, Don, W9IXG

ARRL Wisconsin Section
Section Manager:
Donald E. Michalski, W9IXG

build a new machine, I use the site to send me well over 50 updates for Windows 2000 and then it installs them all, with only a single reboot at the end. This is much, much faster than installing the updates individually. As I have said before, the Windows Update site is definitely one thing Microsoft got right.

- a. BEST: Leave Automatic Updates on so they are downloaded and installed automatically. This is the best ploy because you don't have to remember to do it.
- b. GOOD: Have Windows Update automatically download them, and you install them without delay.
- c. Also Good: Have Windows Update notify you, and you download and install them without delay.

While you are at it, don't forget to update your copy of Microsoft Office. There are a bunch of security updates for that suite, too.

2. GET BEHIND BOTH A HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE FIREWALL.

(Continued on page 7)

Check us out on the web at
<http://www.bsسس.org>

WISCONSIN SECTION STATION ACTIVITY

(Continued from page 4)

STATION	ORIG	RCVD	SENT	DLVD	TOTAL
KB9KEG	251	0	251	0	502 - BPL
K9LGU	0	52	44	0	96
AG9G	0	7	48	0	55
K9FHI	0	16	23	0	39
KE9VU	0	23	2	1	26
KN9P	0	12	11	1	24
W9UW	0	17	6	0	23
KB9ROB	0	18	4	1	23
W9RSX	0	3	11	1	15
WD9FLJ	6	0	6	0	12
WB9ICH	0	10	2	0	12
K9UTQ	0	3	3	1	7
W9PVD	0	0	1	0	1

P S H R SUMMARY
January 2007

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	30	275	0	10	395
WD9FLJ	40	12	10	120	0	0	182
AG9G	40	40	20	25	0	0	125
K9LGU	40	40	30	5	0	0	115
W9RSX	40	12	10	0	0	0	62

February 2007

CALL	1	2	3	4	5	6	T
KB9KEG	40	40	30	240	0	10	360
WD9FLJ	40	12	10	130	0	0	192
AG9G	40	40	20	60	0	0	160
K9LGU	40	40	30	5	0	0	115
K9FHI	40	40	10	0	0	0	90
W9RSX	40	15	10	0	0	0	65

The Computer Corner

(Continued from page 6)

Even if you have only one computer, using a DSL or cable router (Linksys, D-Link, Netgear and the like) is a great way to add a layer of defense. If you get one from your high-speed service provider, add another one with multiple ports and plug your single computer into it. If you add another computer later, the box will protect all computers on your network, besides allowing you to share resources and the Internet. Routers are hardware firewalls that offer strong protection for everything connected. Just don’t forget to change the router’s default password to one you make up! Follow up the hardware firewall with a software firewall such as Zone Alarm (free at zonelabs.com) installed in each machine. Another one I hear is very good is Comodo Personal Firewall, but I am personally partial to Zone Alarm because they have been providing free firewalls to the computing public for many years, just because they thought it should be done. And, they did this long before they started selling Zone Alarm Pro. The free one is excellent and adequate.

3. USE A VIRUS SCANNER. But, use just one (installing more than one virus

scanner can lead to big problems). Want a free one? A recent review showed AntiVir Classic V7 and Bitdefender 8 free to be among the best of the free scanners. I have recently installed a newly available free one to my own machine - AOL Active Virus Shield - which is based on Kaspersky Anti-virus, said to be the best in the world at detection and repair. It seems very good, and does its work in the background, scanning only those files that changed since the initial scan. It also updates automatically, but only when the CPU is not burdened with other tasks. It is a terrific security tool that works quietly and efficiently in the background (I hate programs that interrupt your work just to tell you about a mundane task it is performing). Just Google **AOL Active Virus Shield** to get it. They will ask for your email address so they can send you the key for installation.

You can even get an online scan free at several sites. They are listed alphabetically, but Kaspersky is likely to be the best at detection. On the other hand, the free on-line Kaspersky scan won’t remove a virus, but the others will. Be sure to use IE when you request a scan; other browsers (Firefox) won’t work.

- a. BitDefender Online Scanner
- b. F-Secure Online Scanner
- c. Kaspersky Online Scanner
- d. Panda Online Virus Scanner

If you want to pay for your virus

The 2007 Madison Hamfest and Computer Fair

Saturday, April 21, 2007
8:00 AM until 1:00 PM
(Dealer set-up Friday night 6:00 pm-8:00 pm and Saturday morning 6:00 am)

Talk-in frequency: 147.15 Mhz Repeater pl 123.0

Featuring vendors of new and used equipment for Amateur Radio, Electronics, Computers, computer parts, software. Huge Flea Market in the Mandt Community Center's spacious 26,000 sq. ft. main hall! VE Session.

Same great location since year 2000!
Please note the Hamfest is on a Saturday this year!

Mandt Community Center
400 Mandt Parkway, Stoughton, Wisconsin
The Mandt Community Center is located in the Stoughton Junior Fair Grounds on the south side of Stoughton, Wisconsin

Public Admission - Doors open at 8:00 AM

Vendor Information

The Madison Hamfest and Computer Fair offers a variety of commercial and flea market space. Vendor space goes on sale in January and sells out several weeks before the event so be sure to reserve your space early this year.

Vendor space is available on a “first come, first served” basis. Complete vendor information can be found by sending Paul Toussaint, N9VWH an e-mail or by calling 608.245.8890. Be sure to check out the links below.

Additional questions?

Inquiries can be directed to: Paul Toussaint, N9VWH
MARA Hamfest Chairman at: w9hsy@execpc.com
MADISON AREA REPEATER ASSOCIATION IS A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
The MARA 24-hour telephone voicemail number is 608.245.8890

Ticket Prices

Hamfest advanced sale general admission tickets are \$4.00 per person or \$5.00 the day of the show.

Vendor table fees are \$15.00 per 8 ft. table, if postmarked by April 2, 2007; \$18.00 after that. Tables are \$25.00 the day of Swapfest, if available.

If you have question about purchasing tickets or table space, contact Paul Toussaint by e-mail or by phone at 608.245.8890. Application on reverse side.

REV 010907-F1

scanner, Kaspersky Antivirus 6, NOD32 and F-Secure are said to be the world leaders in detection and removal. Stay away from home user bloatware. Unfortunately, Norton Antivirus/Systemworks/Internet Security uses huge amounts of system resources (memory and hard disk space) with unessential processes. Too bad Norton is so poor now; it was once a world leader. Another to avoid at all costs is McAfee. It is constantly urging you to buy more useless products, making it little more than an advertising gimmick. These products are difficult to uninstall, especially McAfee. Before I found out about specific removal tools, I had to completely reformat a brand new hard drive to get rid of “in your face” McAfee products that Dell had installed on a new computer. If you have either of these products, get rid of them. Use Google to search for Symantec removal tool or McAfee removal tool to find a way to do it cleanly.

4. USE AT LEAST TWO SPYWARE SCANNERS. Scan with two independent spyware scanners, not one, because there is no single scanner available that will catch every spyware intruder that is out there. BUT, let only one run in the background between scans, or they might con-

flict and cause problems. Spy Sweeper and Spyware Doctor are said to be the best “pay-for” scanners in this area. I personally use both Ad Aware and Spybot Search and Destroy religiously, both of which are free. Whenever there is a definition update, I download it on all my machines and run a full system scan on all. Sometimes one will detect a piece of spyware (such as a tracking cookie) that got through, sometimes the other. Using two works!

5. USE YOUR HEAD. If you surf to find freeware and shareware, stay away from sites you don’t know are secure. Visit majorgeeks.com for a start, and feel free to go to any links they provide – they are safe and the best on the web. If you accidentally visit a pornography site, or even get a pornography email, expect your computer to get infected with something or other. Run both virus and spyware scans immediately afterwards. Block all ads, banners and 3rd party cookies in your browser, because malware can enter your machine this way. Keep your senses heightened, be skeptical, and don’t trust what you read on the web. Browse smart!

Happy computing!



SuperFest 2007
AES Milwaukee

5710 West Goodhope Road Milwaukee, WI 53223
Friday March 30 (2:30-7:00 pm)
Saturday March 31 (8:30 am - 3:00 pm)

- Our 50th Anniversary Celebration!
-
- **FREE ADMISSION**
-
- Ham Manufacturer Displays & Demos
- Informational Forums • Gordon West
- Many Area Clubs & Organizations
- Awesome Prize Drawings • VE Testing 9:00-11:30 am
- Fox Hunt (with prizes) • Specials & Coupons • FREE Popcorn & Soda
- Food for Purchase (prepared by Boy Scouts) • Plenty of Parking
-
- <http://www.aesham.com/superfest.shtml>
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SUPERFEST SPEAKERS
Saturday, March 31

9:00-9:45 a.m. Jack Hudson, W9MU
Amateur Radio RTTY & PSK General back-
ground on Amateur Radio Digital Modes,
Signals and Techniques.

10:00-10:45 a.m. Greg Lengling,
W9DHI Software Control of Radios and Re-
mote Station Operation using Ham Radio
Deluxe Software by HB9DRV. Live demon-
stration of remote operation using the internet.

11:00-11:45 a.m. Joel M. Harrison,
W5ZM (President, ARRL) Topic: TBA

12:00-12:45 p.m. Bob Heil, K9EID &
Chip Margelli, K7JA – Heil Sound Ltd. Im-
prove your Communications Power Using
Heil Sound products to improve audio in mod-
ern Ham stations.

1:00-1:45 p.m. Jack Hughes, K9JAC
Internet Repeater Linking (IRLP)

2:00-2:45 p.m. Gordon West, WB6NOA
Gordon West Radio School A guest speaker at
nearly every Superfest, Gordon is always
entertaining with fresh topics every year.

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Please do NOT send cash.

The Test Point



Amateur Radio Examination Locations and Schedules in the Area

March 31, 2007	Medford, WI
April 07, 2007	Madison, WI
April 07, 2007	St. Paul, MN
April 12, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
April 14, 2007	Blaine, MN
April 14, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
April 19, 2007	Iron River, MI
April 21, 2007	Rockford, IL
April 28, 2007	La Crosse, WI
April 28, 2007	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
April 28, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
May, 05, 2007	Madison, WI
May, 05, 2007	St. Paul, MN
May, 10, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
May, 12, 2007	Blaine, MN
May, 12, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
May, 17, 2007	Iron River, MI
May, 19, 2007	Rockford, IL
May, 26, 2007	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
May, 26, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
June, 02, 2007	Madison, WI
June, 02, 2007	St. Paul, MN
June, 09, 2007	Blain, MN
June, 09, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
June, 14, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
June, 16, 2007	Rockford, IL
June, 21, 2007	Iron River, MI
June, 30, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
July 07, 2007	Madison, WI
July 07, 2007	St. Paul, MN
July 12, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
July 14, 2007	Blaine, MN
July 14, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
July 19, 2007	Iron River, MI
July 28, 2007	Rockford, IL
July 28, 2007	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
July 28, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
August 04, 2007	Madison, WI
August 04, 2007	St. Paul, MN
August 09, 2007	Apple Valley, MN
August 11, 2007	Blaine, MN
August 11, 2007	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
August 16, 2007	Iron River, MI
August 18, 2007	Rockford, IL
August 25, 2007	Tomahawk, WI
September 08, 2007	La Crosse, WI
November 03, 2007	La Crosse, WI

Monthly, 1st Sat.	Madison, WI
Monthly, 1st Sat.	St. Paul, MN
Monthly, 2nd Thu.	Apple Valley, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Blaine, MN
Monthly, 2nd Sat.	Oshkosh (Omro), WI
Monthly, 3rd Thu.	Iron River, MI
Monthly, 3rd Sat.	Rockford, IL
Monthly, Last Sat.	Milwaukee, WI (MRAC)
(Except Mar., Jun., Aug., & Dec.)	
Monthly, Last Sat.	Tomahawk, WI
(January thru October only)	

GENERAL RULES FOR MOST EXAMINATIONS: Be sure to check with sponsors before going to an examination session. There may be changes and/or errors in the dates or information given. Some examinations require filing an FCC or NCVEC Form 605 and advance registration at least 30 days before the exam date. Some VE teams permit walkins. Check with the sponsor.

Many hamfests and swapfests offer examinations. A Hamfest entrance fee should not be charged if you come only to attend the examination. To register in advance, you must get a copy of the current FCC Form 605, and fill it out completely and correctly. Get your form from the FCC as instructed below, or from the American Radio Relay League, 225 Main Street, Newington, CT 06111. Please send an SASE if you request a form from the League. FCC Field Offices seldom stock forms. You can also get a form from

<http://www.fcc.gov/formpage.html>
or
<ftp://ftp.fcc.gov/pub/Forms/Form605>.

A form by FAX is available at (202) 418-0177 (request Form 000605). The FCC Forms Distribution Center will accept orders at (800) 418-3676. Form 605 has a main form, plus a Schedule D with two parts (for Vanity and Physician's Certifications). Forms can also be obtained from the sponsoring group.

See QST, W1AW bulletins, or The ARRL Letter regarding any annual exam fee changes. Test fees: The ARRL/VEC has set its 2007 test fee at \$14.00. FCC requires applicants to show their original amateur license or CSCE to the VE team. You must also have a good copy of your license or CSCE. A copy of your license or CSCE must be attached to your FCC form 605 and most VE teams need a copy for their records. One good CSCE copy is sufficient. You are also be required to have a photo ID, or two other forms of ID. Contact the VE team for details.

Technician class licensees must show proof of testing before March 21, 1987, in order to upgrade to General. Proof must be either in the form of a pre-3/21/87 license document or a "Letter of Verification of Technician License Held Prior to 1987" as requested in writing from the FCC, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245. For those with internet access, a listing of exam sessions is available from:

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec/examsearch.phtml>

By checking this page, you can find registered VE sessions anywhere in the US and some overseas. You can search by country, state or zip code. The listing is not specific to any particular VEC. It is a master database. Thanks to Bart Jahnke, W9JJ, ARRL/VEC.

Adams, WI
Adams City Fire Dept., 101 N. Main St., Highway 13, Adams, WI. Contact Edward J. Wagner (608) 584-4858. ab9fn@arrl.net

Appleton, WI
Fox Cities ARC (ARRL/VEC) All regular test sessions are held at the American Red Cross Building, 1302 East Wisconsin Ave. in Appleton. Testing starting at 8 a.m. No walk-ins after 9 a.m. For information, contact George R. Croy, W9MDP, 2113 Twin Willows Drive, Appleton, WI 54914. (920) 730-0967. Email: w9mdp@arrl.net.

Eau Claire, WI
Eau Claire Amateur Radio Club. Grace Lutheran Church, 202 W., Grand Ave. Enter off 2nd Avenue entrance, Eau Claire, WI
Technician, General and Extra Class exams. Walkins welcome. Examination session coordinator: Jonathan E., Case, (715) 834-1540. www.ecarc.org. w9eau@ecarc.org.

Fond du Lac, WI
Fond du Lac ARC (ARRL/VEC). Community United Methodist Church, 701 Minnesota Ave., North Fond du Lac. 9:00 a.m. Walk-ins allowed. Contact: Douglas J. Schultz, 920-922-3088, schultz74@charter.net.

Houghton MI

Sponsor: HARC/CCRAA. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: George R Thurner home phone, (906)337-2542, cell phone (906) 369-2542 Email: W8FWG@ARRL.NET VEC: ARRL/VEC Location: Michigan Tech University-US Hwy 41. Wadsworth Residence Hall, East End of Campus, G04w (Downstairs/Turn Left), Houghton, MI 49931

Iron Mountain, MI
Sponsor: W5YI VEC. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-Ins Allowed). Contact: Mark J Lewis, (906) 774-6598. VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Dickinson County Library, 401 South Iron Mountain St., Arrival Time: 9:00 AM. Conference Room, Iron Mountain, MI 49801

Iron River, MI.
Sponsor: Iron Range ARA (IRARC). Time: 6:30 PM (No walk-ins). Contact: Dan R Waters, (906)265-4240. Email: dmwaters@ironriver.tv VEC: W5YI VEC. Location: Iron River Lutheran Church, Across From Mc Donald's. Pre-Registration Required. If no applicants - No testing. Iron River, MI 49935

La Crosse, WI (ARRL/VEC).
Sponsor:Riverland Amateur Radio Club **Location: American Red Cross-2927 Losey Blvd. LaCrosse, WI Time: 9:00a.m. (NO Walk-Ins)** **Registration IS required-Contact: Roger Reader 608-783-0723** readers@centurvtel.net.

Madison, WI
The Madison Wisconsin, Four Lakes Amateur Radio Club-sponsored VE testing has moved to the new University of Wisconsin Space Place, 2300 South Park Street, lower level, Madison, WI in the Villager shopping center complex. Exams are given the first Saturday of the month, from 8:00 AM to 10:00 AM, no appointment is necessary. Questions may be directed to Carolyn Kammen, NQ9A at 608-246-0225 (home phone) or sent to NQ9A@arrl.net.

Marshfield, WI
Sponsored by the Marshfield Area ARS. Saint Joseph's Hospital, 611 Saint Joseph Ave., Room 124, Hospice South Bldg., Marshfield, WI 54449. Contact Lee A. Olson, (715) 389-8888.

Medford, WI
Sponsored by the Black River Amateur Radio Assn.(ARRL/VEC affiliated). Saturday, March 31st. Testing for all classes, Technician through Extra. Registration starts at 9:30 AM, testing starts at 10:00 AM. Location: the conference room of the Medford Public Library, 400 N. Main St., Medford, WI. From the intersection of State Hwys. 13 and 64, proceed west on Hwy. 64 to Main St. Turn north on Main St. and take Main St. to the library. Talk-in on the 147.15 (+600 kHz, 114.8 Hz PL) KB9OBX repeater. Walk-ins welcome, however, if you know you'll be attending, it would be appreciated if you call ahead. Contact: Tom Hrdina, N9GEN, 2373 Willow Ave., Medford, WI 54451, phone (715) 748-4054 or e-mail to Mike, N9GHZ, at mds54449@yahoo.com.

Menomonie, WI (ARRL/VEC)
Sponsored by the Dunn County Area Amateurs Location: University of Wisconsin, 121 10th Avenue, UW Stout Millennium Hall, NW Entrance, Menomonie, WI 54751. Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: James L. Guenther, (715)232-2625. Email: guentherj@uwstrou.edu

Menominee, MI
Marinette-Menominee Amateur Radio Club. Location: The cafeteria of Bay Area Med Center, US-41 in Menominee. Building located next to KFC just off the Interstate Bridge. All classes given. Advance notice preferred, but not required. Test fee

is \$10 with two pieces of identification required. Contact Jeff Rymer, N9PQU at jrymer@ez-net.com or Ed Engleman, KG8CX, at dxe@cybrzn.com. We will monitor the 147.000 (107.2 pl) repeater in event further directions or info is needed.

Merrill, WI
Merrill Amateur Radio Group. 3:15 p.m. (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Myron J. Oestreich (715) 355-6902 e-mail: kb9stb@margdx Location: Gail's Place, n4090 Cth. K, Lincoln Center Banquet Hall.

Milwaukee, WI
The Milwaukee Radio Amateurs' Club VEC holds test sessions on the last Saturday, except in March, June, August, and December. In addition, we test for one morning during the West Allis RAC Swapfest in January and at Superfest in April. All sessions except WARAC swapfest are held from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 at Amateur Electronic Supply, 5710 W. Good Hope Rd., Milwaukee. Watch for signs directing you to the session room. West Allis RAC Swapfest session is held at AMF lanes across the street from the Waukesha Expo. We usually start earlier; contact VEC for more info.

Bring along your original license or CSCE (if any), and one good quality photocopy of each, plus a form of identification (driver's license is fine). Exam fee is \$5.00; walk-ins are welcome. Contact: Tom Fuszard at 262-789-7975 or tom@supremecom.biz.

Negaunee, MI. Sponsor: HIAWATHA ARC. Time: 8:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Richard E Schwenke, (906)249-3837, Email: n8gba@chartermi.net VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Health Dept Bldg (Downstairs), 184 US 41 E, Entrance @ Back of building. Negaunee, MI 49866

Onalaska, WI
Sponsor: Riverland ARC, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed), Contact: Roger C. Reader, (608)783-0723. Email: readers@centurytel.net. VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Onalaska Public Library. 741 Oak Ave S. Onalaska, WI 54650

Oshkosh, WI (Omro)
Oshkosh VE Team Amateur Radio exams monthly on the second Saturday. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. and exams will be given from 9 a.m. until noon. Omro Community Center, 130 W. Larrabee, Omro, WI. Walkins welcomed. Bring a good quality photocopy of your original license and any other necessary documents such as a CSCE, etc. The first session will be through W5YI/VEC, and then sessions will alternate between ARRL/VEC and W5YI/VEC. The exam fee is \$6.65. For more information, please call Dick Lemme, K9FA, at (920) 235-0987, e-mail: lemme@vbe.com, or write Dick at 826 Jefferson Street, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

Portage, WI
ARRL/VEC Amateur testing on Oct. 21st 2006. Testing will begin at 10:30 AM at the Portage Public Library 253 w. Edgewater St. Portage, WI. For more information contact Brian Smith, KG9OG at 608-742-4562 or Ed Wagner, AB9FN at ab9fn@yahoo.com. Walk-ins are welcome.

Racine, WI
ARRL VEC Monthly - first Saturday, except January, July, and August. Monthly exams are given 9 to 11 a.m. at the Faith United Methodist Church, 1013 Harmony Drive, Racine. Walk-ins are permitted. Talk in on 147.87/.27. Inquiries and registrations should be directed to Paul B. Smedegaard, N9RGW, 929 Lathrop Ave., Racine, WI 53405-2339. Telephone: (262) 637 4750. or e-mail to smedegaa@wi.net

Rockford, IL
Northern Illinois Volunteer Examiners
(Continued on page 10)



It's already time for us to start planning for 2007 summer public service events and the call for volunteers has started. You may be familiar with the Bike Northwoods Tour that Don Michalski - W9IXG runs every year. The organizers of the Bike Northwoods Tour,

Kathy (KB9UAZ) and Eric (KB9UAY) Schramm, will also be running the GRABAAWR® and SAGBRAW™ bike tours starting in 2007. These tours are week long bike tours that cross the state covering about 400 miles each. The largest of the rides involves about 1200 cyclist. We are looking for Amateur Radio volunteers to assist with all three of these events.



Amateur Radio Operators have the option of working a single day, multiple days or the entire week long event. As the tours cross the state hams adjust frequencies utilizing various two meter repeaters sometimes using multiple repeaters at the same time. We recommend mobile radios with a 25 watt minimum power output as some of the areas we cover may be lacking good repeater coverage. We will also be utilizing the states APRS network during the event but this will not be required of hams working the event. During the events, amateurs pass traffic regarding the health and welfare of bicyclists, course conditions, and weather. There are numerous positions requiring ham operators including net controls, mobile sags, waterstop sags, bicycling sags, motorcycling hams and camp radio operators.

There is a particular need for a ham with a full-size, multi-passenger van with a trailer hitch that is able to commit for the entire week. We are also interested in obtaining assistance from hams that can provide services out of their home shacks. There is also a need for a Communications Director for the SAGBRAW tour.

Dates of tours have changed from previous years in response to having to coordinate 3 cross state events. This year the Bike Northwoods Tour will be doing its North-South route, below is a list of tour dates and overnight locations. We encourage local hams to participate as there are needs at the sites of our overnight locations.

Camping, meal, shower and towel plans along with transportation for hauling your personal clothing or camping items my also be available.



This is a great opportunity to hone your amateur radio skills over a large geographic area and meet other hams from as far away as Texas. Clubs interested in setting up field stations are encouraged to do so and are welcome to use the event for publicizing your clubs.

Not only will you be helping the cyclist but there are opportunities to help your favorite charities. Whether it be a cancer charity, a bicycle club, or a Girl Scout pack, as a volunteer you are able to nominate a 501(c)(3) organizations for a donation from Two Bicycles and a Map, LTD.

For additional information, questions or coordination of field stations please contact Scott Winter at kb9pvi@arrl.net. Additional information regarding Two Bicycles and a Map, LTD or any of these events can be found at www.bikewisconsin.com.

THE TEST POINT

(Continued from page 9)
(W5YI VEC) Third Saturday of every month. 9:00 a.m. to noon. No new applicants after 11:00 a.m. Walkins welcome. Held at St. Anthony Hospital, 5660 E State St., Rockford, IL. Contact: Randy Scott, W9HL, W9HL@ARRL.NET (815-877-4328).

Sheboygan, WI
Sheboygan County ARC (ARRL/VEC). Exams are held in the Red Cross Building, 2032 Erie Avenue, Sheboygan, WI. The test areas are handicap accessible with signage posted to direct candidates to the proper area of the building. Walk-ins are accepted, however notification ahead of time of your intention to appear would be appreciated. Contact: Art Pahr K9XJ, 920-876-2370. N8029 Willow Road k9xj@arrl.net Plymouth, WI 53073-2929

Tomahawk, WI
Tomahawk Repeater Association ARRL/VEC team. Last Saturday of every month January thru October. Registration at 8:30, testing at 9:00 a.m. at Sacred Heart Hospital, 401 W. Mohawk Dr., Tomahawk. Contact Diane Lodge Hamman, KA9BHK, 145.43 MHz or telephone 715 453-3908.

St. Paul, MN
Saint Paul Radio Club (SPRC) First Saturday of the month. Site: Roseville City Hall, 2660 County Road C, NW Corner County Road. C & Lexington Ave., Roseville MN 55101. Time: 8:30 AM (Walk-ins allowed)Contact: David M Buending, (952)486-0836, Email: AD2B@ARRL.NET. VEC: ARRL/VEC.

Washington Island, WI
Contact: John W. Van Sandt, (217) 826-8821. n9yrx@hotmail.com

Waukesha, WI (Milwaukee VEC)
Sponsor: West Allis Radio Club Swapfest, Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed. Contact: John G. Kraak, (262)548-9585. Email: jkraak@wi.rr.com. Location: AMF Waukesha Lanes, across from Waukesha EXPO, Waukesha, WI 53186

Wausau, WI.
Sponsor: WVRA. Time: 8:00 Walk-ins allowed). Contact: Gerald L. Graebel, (715) 42-9542 Email: VEC: ARRL/VEC. Location: Martech Systems, 614 N. 3rd Ave, Wausau, WI 54401. Parking in rear of building.

ARLB008 FCC Now Processing Amateur Radio Vanity Call Sign Backlog

The FCC has resumed processing new Amateur Radio vanity call sign applications. An initial stab at whittling down the backlog began February 8 -- five weeks to the day after the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (WTB) issued the last vanity call sign prior to the resumption. The Commission stopped processing new vanity call sign applications received on or after December 18 while it readied the Universal Licensing

System (ULS) vanity application software to accommodate a December 15 rule change to discourage the filing of multiple applications for the same call sign. The FCC has continued to accept new vanity applications and to process vanity renewals. A WTB staff member, speaking on background, told ARRL the Commission could be back on track by next week.

"We've resumed processing, and by next week we'll be caught up," said the staffer, who conceded that the FCC's ULS software had not been fully tested to ensure it could deal with the multiple-applications issue when the new rule's December 15 effective date rolled around. "We knew the date was coming, but the software wasn't quite ready." The Commission could complete processing of applications that have been sitting in the queue as early as February 12.

As of February 9, the WTB appeared to have granted some 125 vanity call sign applications submitted between December 18 and December 22. Another 500 or so applications remain in the queue.

The FCC this week also issued a public notice to announce the formal implementation of the multiple applications rule, 97.19(a)(1), effective February 8. The notice said the ULS would limit individuals to filing only one vanity call sign application on the same day.


"In the case where an applicant files multiple vanity call sign applications on the same day, only the first-filed application will be considered for the process, and the additional applications will be dismissed," the FCC said. "This new process will eliminate the possibility of an applicant having more than one application for the same call sign being considered on any one day."

The Commission is likely to receive an avalanche of new vanity call sign applications after February 23, when elimination of the Morse code examination requirement is expected to spur a massive influx of license upgrades.


The FCC is processing new vanity call sign applications now in the queue in the order they were received. Typically, it takes 18 days from the time the FCC receives a vanity application until the call sign is issued -- or the application is denied. The current vanity call sign fee, payable for new applications as well as renewals, is \$20.80 for the 10-year license term.

—ARRL BULLETIN

GRABAAWR®	Bike Northwoods Tour	SAGBRAW™
June 23-30, 2007	July 7-14, 2007	July 29 – August 3, 2007
Eagle River	Wautoma	Sturgeon Bay
Rhinelanders	Stevens Point	Luxemburg
Wausau	Auburndale	Manitowoc
Wisconsin Rapids	Rib Lake	Sheboygan
Mauston	Park Falls	Port Washington*
Portage	Mellen	
Spring Green	Washburn*	* Finish – not an overnight
Prairie du Chien*	All location are tentative at this time	



Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club



WB9FDZ (Original Club Call)
K9ODK (Robert L. Prine Memorial Call)
Club net: Sundays 8:00 p.m. on 147.315
Robert Loomis, KB9VSQ, Secretary
108 Scarlet Ct., Reedsburg, WI 53959
YTARC Home Page: <http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/>

Meeting February 6, 2007

The monthly meeting of the Yellow Thunder ARC opened at 7:30pm with call to order by President, Steve Schulze, N9UDO.

Tom, N9PQJ, moved to accept the January minutes as published. Second by Gary, W9ULK. Passed.

Bill, N9KXX was absent so no treasurer’s report was given.

Old Business:
Swapfest flyers for 2007 were printed and distributed at the Waukesha and Wheaton hamfests. Tower electronics promised to be at our event this year barring any unforeseen medical emergencies.

Steve showed the group the new AR-COM controller that will be going in the 147.315 repeater. The old controller is being traded to Len, N9QIP for use in the Wisconsin Interstate Network. Steve told the group the many features this controller has. It can handle wave files and can be programmed with a laptop. It has versatility to do many more functions.

Following the Sullivan weather survey, YTARC was asked to release the YTARC repeater for use as a backbone for severe weather reporting for the Sullivan Weather Office. The BARS repeater will no longer be used as the backbone.

Our severe weather net will move to the 145.310 KB9VMC repeater which also has good coverage. With the new controller we can have the 147.315 repeater do a voice message a to where the weather net will be operating.

Steve read a letter from Tom Kuchar-ski thanking YTARC for their cooperation. Steve then read the memorandum of understanding with the Sullivan committee allowing them to use the club’s repeater. Don, K9JYX moved to accept and sign the MOU with a second from Chris, KC9IZG. Carried.

Tom will be at the March 13 ARES/RACES meeting to give backbone training.

New Business:
Steve finally got the annual club mailing and dues notice out with the help from Don, K9JYX doing the stuffing of 55 envelops.

Brad, KB9VMC and Steve, N9UDO went to the Wheaton hamfest to see a presentation of D-Star given by Mark Thompson, WB9QZB, a former Baraboo Resident. This is an open frame system developed by Icom that can be used by any manufacturer. This is the digital standard for amateur radio. D-Star repeaters and systems can do some amazing things. Steve explained how the system operates and what equipment is involved. There are several systems now operating around the country. Steve said that if you do a search for D-Star you will find a lot of information.

Steve and Brad are asking the club if they would be willing to back the first system in the state. Steve is buying the VHF D-Star repeater and Brad will supply the Antenna and tower space for it. Steve asked if the club would be willing to pay for the set of duplexers to hook up to the existing combining system and antennas.

Check us out on the web at <http://www.bsss.org>

Brad stated that he is out of space on the tower for any more free users. But he would work with us by using his combining system and an antenna that is already in place. The cost is around \$2,000. Pete suggested that we apply for a grant through ARES/RACES for the money. Open for further discussion.

In other new business, Steve announced the annual QSO party coming up on March 11 from 1:00pm to 8:00pm local time. This is also the first day of the new daylight savings time.

Tom, N9PQJ moved to adjourn with

a second by Gary, W9ULK. Meeting adjourned at 9:13pm. Buck night was waved as there was no member list to draw from. Next meeting it will be two bucks.

Respectfully Submitted
Donald A. Evenson, K9JYX

Present:
Don Evenson, K9JYX
Gary Sorenson, W9ULK
Steve Schulze, N9UDO
Chris Martin, KC9IZG
Pete Sweeney, WD9JIB
Tom Harrison, N9PQJ

BSSS congratulates:

Jackson Tenor, KC9KVU who passed his technician class ham test on his 8th birthday (Feb. 10) at a test session in Green Bay. He is most likely the youngest ham in Wisconsin and one of the youngest

in the country. He is a second grader at Trinity St. Joseph Catholic School in Green Bay. He is also now a member of the Green Bay Mike and Key Club.

---Submitted by his proud father, Joe N9UPU

MANCORAD W9DK Announces April 21st 2007 Ham Cram Course

Dateline - 08 March 2007, Manitowoc Wisconsin

MANCORAD W9DK Spring 2007 “HamCram” Licensing Class

April 21st, 2007 8 am to 4 pm

Join a fellow group of highly motivated Amateur Radio Candidates for Spring 2007 Manitowoc County Radio Club - MANCORAD’s “HamCram” Class.

HamCram is a specially designed single day session that teaches everything needed to become an FCC Licensed Radio Amateur, with official FCC Licensing the same day. A preparation session several weeks prior will explain in detail all that you need to study & know to pass the FCC multiple choice Technician License (Entry Level License).

We will show you how you can easily join the exciting Amateur Radio hobby through the use of the course preparation materials, a few on-line practice quizzes, the HamCram class and testing at our in-house test session.

Pre-Class: Monday April 2nd, 2007, 7 pm
HamCram: Saturday April 21st, 2006 8 am - 4 pm
Where: Mancorad Club Shack
Cost:\$40 which includes the \$14 FCC Exam Fee, a copy of the ARRL Manual, \$6.00 for your course materials, and a Pizza Lunch on HamCram Saturday.

Contact: Mancorad, ATTN Ham-Cram, P.O. Box 204, Manitowoc, WI 542210-0204
Email: info@w9dk.co Website: <http://www.w9dk.com/>

We have another issue of BSSS almost ready to go to the printer. We still have to select on of Richard Regent’s “Elmer” panels for the back page. Rich created these panels over the past several years and we are happy to present his insight into the world of amateur radio. We have used many of these panels, and sometimes forget which ones we have used before so we occasionally repeat one of them. But they are always worth a second look. Thanks Rich.

We were unable to make the Jefferson swapfest due to health problems.

(Stayed very close to home) But we plan on attending the AES SuperFest in Milwaukee and the MARA swapfest in Stoughton along with others during the coming months.

Don’t forget to check our web site. Dave KB9CSW has reorganized the site and is working at keeping the information up to date on the site.

Enjoyed working many of you during the Wisconsin QSO in March.

73 ken k9en

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SWAPFESTS

<div><p>2004 WINNER Nicholas Luther, K9NL Oshkosh, WI.</p></div> <div><p>34th ANNUAL MIDWINTER SWAPFEST WAUKESHA EXPOSITION CENTER WAUKESHA, WISCONSIN SATURDAY JANUARY 5, 2008</p><p><i>Both sponsored by:</i> THE WEST ALLIS RADIO AMATEUR CLUB, INC. <i>P. O. BOX 1072 · MILWAUKEE, WISCONSIN 53201</i></p></div>	<p><i>HAM IT UP EVERY SPRING!</i> MADISON SWAPFEST Mandt Community Center <i>APRIL 21, 2007</i> 400 Mandt Parkway Stoughton WI Doors open at 8 a.m. Sponsored by MARA/W9HSY P. O. Box 8890 Madison, WI 53708-8890 Swapfest Information Line. (608) 245-8890</p>	<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB SWAPFEST 07 JULY 07, 2007 (Held every July) <i>American Legion Park</i> Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI 53172 e-mail ryatex@aol.com</p>		
<p>Ozaukee Radio Club HAM RADIO AND COMPUTER SWAPFEST MAY 5, 2007—SEPT. 8 2007 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. • Circle B Recreation Center Intersection of Highway 60 and County I Exams by Badger Examiners, c/o Gary Sharbuno, 5119 W, Willow Rd., Brown Deer, WI 53222 Swapfest sponsored by the Ozaukee Radio Club W55 N865 Cedar Ridge Drive • Cedarburg WI 53012</p>	<p>The Chicago FM Club presents RADIO EXPO 2007 SEPTEMBER 29-30, 2007 Boone County Fairgrounds Rts. 76 and Business 20, Belvidere, Illinois Free parking • Amateur Exams • Talkin 146.16/76 Info Voice mail and FAX: (708) 457-0966 http://www.chicagofmclub.org 5127 N. Monterey Dr., Norridge IL 60706-3242</p>	<p>TRI-COUNTY ARC PRESENTS HAMFEST 2007 March , 2008 YOUR SPRING FAVORITE ! www.cmdline.com/tcarc/ TCARC 213 Frederick St (920) 563-6381 Fort Atkinson, WI 53538 Evenings</p>		
<p>SOUTH MILWAUKEE AMATEUR RADIO CLUB AUCTION Amateur Radio, Computers & Electronics Wed. OCT. 06, 2007, 6:00 p.m. <i>American Legion Post 434</i> Shepard Avenue • Oak Creek, WI (414) 762-3235 Ask for Verne P.O. Box 102 South Milwaukee, WI</p>	<p>Circus City Swapfest Sponsored by the Yellow Thunder Amateur Radio Club August 11, 2007 • 7 am—Noon Sauk County Fairgrounds • Baraboo, WI</p> <table><tr><td>Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area</td><td>\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables</td></tr></table> <p>Steve Schulze, N9UDO • Bill Klinkner, N9KXX (606) 356-2313 • (608) 643-6908/643-6453 http://www.qsl.net/ytarc/hamfest.htm,</p>	Vendors • Concessions Camping • Free Parking Tail Gate Area	\$4.00 — Advanced \$5.00 — At Gate \$5.00 — 8 foot tables	<p>The Milwaukee Repeater Club presents AMATEUR RADIO FEST 2007</p> <p>Waukesha County Expo Center Forum Buildings For more information, see: http://www.mrc91.org e-mail mrc@mrc91.org or call (414) 526-7011</p>
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